

# HOW GOD REVEALS HIMSELF

Selected Scriptures  
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# How God Reveals Himself

- ⦿ “Revelation” Gr.apokalupsis. It means an “unveiling” or “disclosure”
- ⦿ “Revelation” is God’s disclosure to man, in which He reveals truth about Himself that man would not otherwise know.
- ⦿ There are two types of “Revelation”
  - General Revelation
  - Special Revelation

# General Revelation

- General Revelation reveals aspects about God and His nature to all mankind so that all humanity has an awareness of God's existence.
- General Revelation is exactly that – general
- It is general in its scope, that is, it reaches to all people

# General Revelation

- Matthew 5:45 says God “causes His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”
- It encompasses the entire globe
- Psalm 19:2 says, “Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.”

# General Revelation

- Psalm 19:1-6 is a primary passage of Scripture that emphasizes the general revelation of God in the universe and nature

# General Revelation

- What are the heavens telling?
- What is the work of His hands?
- What is said day by day in verse 2?
- What is revealed each night?
- What does verse 3 mean?
- What does verses 4-6 mean?

# General Revelation

- ⦿ What are the heavens telling?
  - The glory of God and the work of His hands
- ⦿ What is the work of His hands?
  - The heavens and their expanse
- ⦿ What is said day by day in verse 2?
  - The Glory of God

# General Revelation

- ⦿ What is revealed each night?
  - There is a Creator
- ⦿ What does verse 3 mean?
  - Though there is no speech or words or voice, they are still telling of God's glory



# General Revelation

- ◎ What does verses 4-6 mean?
  - This revelation about God has gone everywhere “through all the earth” (v.4), “to the ends of the earth” (v.5).

# General Revelation

- vv.4-6 – Just as God has placed the sun in all its glory like “a bridegroom coming out of his chamber”(v.5) whose “rising is from one end of the heavens” (v.6) and “there is nothing hidden from its heat (v.6), so it is with the glory of God.

# General Revelation

- God has revealed Himself in His creation – this is *general revelation*
- Romans 1:20 says, “For since the creation of the world, His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.”

# General Revelation

- ◎ The Definition of General Revelation
  - God reveals Himself to all mankind through the glories of His creation and His government of the universe.

# How God Makes Himself Known to Us

- ◎ General Revelation is Seen in Nature by All Men
  - Ps.19:1, “The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.”
- ◎ General Revelation Sees God as Creator and Governor
  - Genesis 1:1
  - Hebrews 1

# How God Makes Himself Known to Us

- General Revelation Renders Sinful Man Without Excuse
- General Revelation is Insufficient for Saving Knowledge

# How God Makes Himself Known to Us

- Although general revelation may lead an individual in the direction of salvation , it is still not enough to teach an individual the way of salvation
- Acts 10 is a good illustration of this

# A Need for General Revelation

- ◎ It saves the world from chaos and cruelty
  - Nature
  - Conscience
  - History
- ◎ It supports and illustrates special revelation (God's Word)



# Special Revelation

- Special revelation is the act of God whereby He reveals Himself and His truth to specific people at specific times
- Special revelation cannot be learned on one's own

# Special Revelation

- 1 Corinthians 2:14 says, “But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritual discerned.”

# Special Revelation

- Special revelation is accepted by faith
- Romans 10:17, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

# Special Revelation

- Special revelation is sufficient for salvation
- Romans 10:13-14 says, “For whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?”

# Need for Special Revelation

- Man cannot be saved through general revelation alone
- Man cannot fully appreciate general revelation until he accepts special revelation

# Need for Special Revelation

- The unconverted man's heart is so blinded by sin that he cannot appreciate all that God has done
- 2 Cor.4:4 says, "...the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."

# Need for Special Revelation

- When a person accepts Jesus Christ as Savior, that person has a new appreciation of God's creation and a better view of himself